

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/604,325
Docket No.: 9466-US-PA-R

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Claims 1-2, 7-9 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baskin (US 5,307,055, hereinafter Baskin) in view of Miyashita (US 5,782,548, hereinafter "Miyashita"). Claims 15-16 and 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baskin in view of Miyashita, and further in view of Moore (US 5,584,554, hereinafter Moore). Claims 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baskin in view of Miyashita, and further in view of Moore. Claims 26-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baskin in view of Miyashita, and further in view of Moore. Claims 3-6, 10-13 and 10-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Reconsideration and allowance of those claims are respectfully requested.

Discussion of examiner's proposed amendment

In this response, the applicant accepts examiner's proposed amendment by incorporating allowed dependent claim 3 into claim 1. Therefore, currently amended claim 1 should be allowable. Claim 28 is cancelled due as being a substantial duplicate of allowed claim 1. Claims 10 and 17 are cancelled for avoiding dependent on cancelled claim 3. Claims 29 and 30 are cancelled for avoiding dependent on cancelled claim 28.

Now, all pending claims are allowed.

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Discussion of Claim Rejections

Now, all pending claims are allowed and the rejections are rendered moot.

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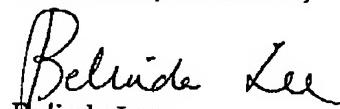
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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Date : Jan. 4, 2005

Respectfully submitted,


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